

NEW JERSEY MILITIA NEWSLETTER

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All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

-- Article 1, Section 1, New Jersey State Constitution

Obama's 1984

By Mark Tapon

On each landing, opposite the lift shaft, the poster with the enormous face gazed from the wall. It was one of those pictures which are so contrived that the eyes follow you about when you move. BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU, the caption beneath it ran. -- Nineteen Eighty-Four

The misnomer "liberal" implies a political philosophy advocating personal freedom. But today's liberals (who cynically appropriated this term for themselves) are actually very uncomfortable with the notion of individual freedom. After all, if people are free to make their own life choices, they will very likely make ones that the left doesn't agree with; better to have an authoritarian government to make the correct choices for you than trust you to make your own.

Take, for example, a concept that is gathering momentum among the leftist elites in, and connected with, the White House: "nudging", a form of social engineering designed to steer Americans subtly to make the "correct" choices -- a kinder, gentler totalitarianism, if you will.

This concept first appeared in a 2009 book by Richard Thaler and Harvard law professor Cass Sunstein called *Nudge*, on "how government and other organizations could induce people to avoid common errors." We all have "a little Homer Simpson in us," says Sunstein, referring to the slothful, selfish cartoon character; and once people recognize that, "then there's a lot that can be done to manipulate them" by *nudging* them in the right direction.

Sunstein was an official advisor to President Obama - and is married to Samantha Power, the UN

ambassador, who will be able to nudge U.S. foreign policy into line with the interests of the international community - once wrote that "there is no liberty without dependency" -- an exemplary nugget of doublespeak. In another book he argues that citizens' rights exist only to the extent that they are granted by the government. He has a forthcoming book in 2014 called -- with apparent seriousness -- *Nanny Statecraft*.

To rescue us from our Homer Simpson-like slothfulness and incompetence the Obama administration recently announced the creation of a "Behavioral Insights Team." As David Brooks puts it in the NY Times, "This kind of soft paternalism will inevitably slide into hard paternalism, with government elites manipulating us into doing the sorts of things they want us to do."

That is a polite way of saying that, for all their well-meaning intentions, the radical left's lust for power in the service of their utopian vision inevitably leads to George Orwell's formulation expressed in *Animal Farm*: "Some animals are more equal than others."

This compulsion to empower bigger and bigger government is entirely consistent with the nature of the radical left, among them Barack Obama and his cronies like Valerie Jarrett, Attorney General Eric Holder and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, all of whom in their various ways are Saul Alinsky devotees who possess an open resentment of and frustration with the Constitution, the "flawed document" that throws up roadblocks to their controlling, statist agenda.

According to an unguarded 2001 radio interview in which he laid

out his big-government political, judicial and economic philosophy, Obama views the Constitution as a flawed document from which we must "break free." After all the Constitution is a charter of "negative liberties," which "says what the states can't do to you, but doesn't say what the federal or State government *must* do on your behalf." What we need instead is a "living" Constitution that shifts to "positive economic rights" in the form of income redistribution, government-provided health care etc.

In addition to his dissatisfaction with what he views as the barriers to "social justice" presented by this country's founding documents, Obama is frustrated with the constraints on his personal power as President. He barely bothers to conceal his impatience and contempt toward the other branches of government that hinder his authoritarianism -- the Judiciary and Congress. And he is selling his supporters on that attitude by painting Congress as the bad guys. In a July 2013 speech in Jacksonville, Florida, for example, Obama said, "So where I can act on my own, I'm going to act on my own. I won't wait for Congress." Depressingly, this baldly totalitarian statement was greeted with applause [as was a similar statement at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois later that same month]. -- David Horowitz Freedom Center, 2013

Citizen Bill of Grievances against President Barack Hussein Obama

IN ORDER TO hold President Barack Obama and his administration accountable to the rule of law, I hereby give Judicial Watch my approval to continue to investigate and litigate

through its National Obama Accountability Project the below-cited offenses, possible crimes and misconduct, and any further unconstitutional and illegal actions this president and his administration attempt to undertake in the future.

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama's Internal Revenue Service (IRS) illicitly targeted and harassed hundreds of Tea Party and other conservative groups who applied for tax exempt status, thereby substantially and negatively impacting their activities in the 2012 elections;

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has failed in his duty to secure the borders of the United States against illegal immigration, is weakening enforcement of existing illegal immigration laws and successful enforcement programs, and has embarked on a policy of "backdoor amnesty" for illegal aliens that bypassed the American people and Congress;

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has embarked on a politically-driven campaign to bypass Congress and govern by executive fiat, as when on January 16th he signed 23 separate executive orders designed, as Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) stated, to "poke holes in the Second Amendment;"....

THEREFORE, to express my anger over President Obama's repeated violations of his campaign promise of "...100% transparency in my administration," as well as my concern over his unethical and radical policies and this threats to attempt to govern through "executive actions" that bypass Congress and the American people, I, the undersigned citizen of the United States, hereby affix my signature to this Citizen Bill of Grievances against President Barack Obama for his repeated violations of the law and his contempt for the public's "right to know."

CERTIFIED/AUTHORIZED
SIGNATURE

-- Fundraising letter, Dec. 2013, from Judicial Watch, PO Box 96234, Washington, DC 20090

Warren Buffett Speaks

The 3 percent solution: "Enact a constitutional amendment stipulating that every sitting representative and senator becomes ineligible for election if in any year of his term our budget deficit runs over 3 percent of the GDP (gross domestic product). Were this amendment passed, the interests of the nation and the personal interests of our

legislators would instantly merge." (p. 36)

"I could eliminate inflation or reduce it very easily, if you had a constitutional amendment that said that no congressman or senator was eligible for reelection in a year in which the CPI [consumer price index] increased more than over 3 percent." (p. 87)

-- *Warren Buffett Speaks* by Janet Lowe (1997)

What the Media is Not Telling You About Future Lead Ammo Shortages

By Joshua Cook

Both the left and the right have disputed Col. Allen West's claim that President Obama is engaging in backdoor gun control by using the EPA to close down America's [only] primary lead smelter.

Lawrence Keane, the senior VP for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which represents the ammunitions and firearms industry, told the Washington Times, "Manufacturers use recycled lead to make ammunition. They don't buy from smelters. The EPA closing ... will have no impact on production, supply or cost to the consumers."

What is unclear is how gun manufacturers will get their additional lead supply.

I contacted the smelter set to close, which is owned by Doe Run and located in Missouri, and asked Doe Run's spokeswoman Tammy Stankey to clarify if lead ammunition will be affected by the closure of America's last primary smelter.

Stankey told me: "Primary lead is produced from ore mined at the largest mining district in the world here in Missouri. The ore goes to our smelter at the Herculanum facility [which will close]."

"That smelter produces the primary lead that battery manufacturers prefer. We also have a secondary smelter. It recycles 13 million batteries a year used in automobiles. The battery companies send batteries in, and we recover the lead and send it back to them."

"We also sell lead to ammo manufacturers who are using secondary lead from batteries, spent lead ammunition and other lead materials. Some of them may not be concerned; however, 130,000 tons of primary lead will be removed from the market [when the Herculanum smelter closes]. So there will be greater competition for the remaining lead.

"Between 96% to 98% of all lead acid batteries are recycled annually. So we are losing 2% to 4% of the lead."

"So where to get additional lead? The only primary smelters left in North America are two in Canada and one in Mexico. There are also some smelters in Asia."

"So the question is: How much will shipping lead, which is a heavy material, cost? What about the political and environmental pressure to regulate lead smelters all over the world?"

I asked Larry Pratt, executive director of Gun Owners of America, if he was concerned that Obama may ban lead imports for ammunition manufactures by executive order.

"That's why we need to impeach him," said Pratt. "The sheriff of the county where that smelter is located should have already communicated with the chief attorney of the EPA and said, 'Not in my county. If you come into my county, I am arresting you.'"

-- www.FreedomOutpost.com Dec. 7th, 2013

Dial 911 and Fry

The advice on what to say to 911 ("Tell them you just shot an intruder"), and ***especially*** talking to the police, without the presence of an attorney, is outright egregious. If you tell them you just shot someone the prosecutor's work is done; 911 tapes are typically instrumental in convicting the shooter, especially in supposed self-defense shootings.

Exercise your 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination. Make no statements. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you. You have the right to have an attorney present during any questioning and before making statements.

I was advised by the Bose Law Firm to call 911, ask for an ambulance for yourself (because you are in shock), and say nothing more. Other people will call 911 and provide accounts of what they experienced, there is no need for you to do this. This is of course if you don't already have them on the phone. They further advised me to call 911 and say nothing more.

If the shooter is innocent of a crime, nothing you say to the police can be used to help find you innocent. Police cannot testify for you in a

courtroom based upon what you tell them because it is considered hearsay. Furthermore, when police officers are involved in a shooting they are typically given 3 days of admin leave to recover from the shock of the incident. It is only then that they make their written statement. This is so because it is a proven fact that during, and shortly after, such an incident your memory will be impaired. All it takes for you to be discredited is for a couple witnesses to contradict you in their account of the incident.

Again, the sole purpose of police officers, when they are interviewing anyone, is to build a solid case for the district attorney to convict criminals. Waiting three days to make a statement will not hurt you in the least. It is allotted to police officers after they use deadly force; how are we any different from them? Police involved in shootings are removed from scene before they can say anything, you deserve equal treatment for the same reasons. They release statements in writing, never verbally.

YOU CANNOT, IN ANY WAY, HELP YOURSELF BY TALKING TO POLICE. You will only incriminate yourself.

Keep in mind that everyone who is prepared to use deadly force should find an attorney they can call at a moment's notice.

-- Cobbled together from postings on VCDL Update 1/4/14

Lawful legal force in New Jersey

The grounds on which lethal force can be used in defense of yourself vary widely from State to State, and can be very confusing.

In New Jersey, you always have a duty to retreat except in your home.

You cannot use deadly force to protect yourself unless, among other factors, you are in "immediate" danger and you cannot retreat.

You cannot use deadly force to protect personal property, ever (this includes a car).

You can use deadly force against a person to repel them from your home if they are about to commit or are committing arson, burglary, robbery or other criminal theft or property destruction, **BUT ONLY IF** the occupant reasonably believes that the person committing the crime is about to use or threatening to use deadly force in the occupant's presence **OR** the person

reasonably believes use of less than deadly force would stop the commission of the crime but would also expose himself or another to a substantial danger of bodily harm.

-- email from a N.J. attorney 1/25/2014

Detroit police chief: Legal gun owners can deter crime

If more citizens were armed, criminals would think twice about attacking them, Detroit Police Chief James Craig said Thursday.

Craig said he started believing that legal gun owners can deter crime when he became police chief in Portland, Maine, in 2009.

"Coming from California (Craig was on the Los Angeles police force for 28 years), where it takes an act of Congress to get a concealed weapon permit, I got to Maine, and I had a stack of CCW permits I was denying; that was my orientation.

"I changed my orientation real quick. Maine is one of the safest places in America. Clearly, suspects knew that good Americans were armed."

Robyn Thomas, director of the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence in San Francisco, disagreed.

"I think at its core, his position is an emotional one, based on the idea that people feel safer when they have guns. But studies have shown more guns don't deter crime," Thomas said. "There's no research that shows guns make anyone safer, and it does show that, the more guns in any situation, the higher the likelihood of them harming either the owner, or people who have access to them."

Rick Ector of the Firearm Academy of Detroit, which teaches gun safety classes, said Craig's comments are unusual for a police official.

"It's a huge, radical departure for the police chief to say good people should have access to firearms," said Ector. "I'm not ready to say he's pro-gun just yet, but it's vastly different from what police chiefs have said in the past."

Although Craig said more responsible gun owners would likely lower crime, in the past he also has called for a ban on assault weapons, regulating high-capacity magazines, tighter restrictions on Internet ammunition sales and more stringent background checks for merchants who sell firearms at gun shows.

-- Detroit News, Dec. 19, 2013

An examination of the effects of concealed weapons laws and assault weapons bans on state-level murder rates

By Mark Gius, Dept. of Economics, Quinnipiac University

Abstract: The purpose of the present study is to determine the effects of state-level assault weapons bans and concealed weapons laws on state-level murder rates. Using data for the period 1980 to 2009 and controlling for state and year fixed effects, **the results of the present study suggest that states with restrictions on the carrying of concealed weapons had higher gun-related murder rates than other states.** It was also found that **assault weapons bans did not significantly affect murder rates at the state level. These results suggest that restrictive concealed weapons laws may cause an increase in gun-related murders at the state level.** The results of this study are consistent with some prior research in this area, most notably Lott and Mustard (1997). [Ed: emphasis added]
-- Applied Economics Letters, 2014 Vol. 21, No. 4, 265-267

High-profile gun control groups join forces

Moms will soon join mayors in a push to limit access to illegal firearms, as two high-profile groups reveal plans to merge.

Outgoing New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Mayors Against Illegal Guns on Thursday will announce that it is joining with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, a year-old grassroots campaign launched the day after the Dec. 14, 2012, shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

The combined group will align Bloomberg's deep pockets with the strong social network and media savvy the mothers' group brings. The billionaire founder of Bloomberg News said that he'll "devote extensive resources of my own" to the effort.

Founded by Shannon Watts, an Indianapolis mother of five, Moms Demand Action says it has more than 130,000 members in all 50 states. It took on coffee chain Starbucks in July, pushing it to ban guns from its cafes.

John Feinblatt, chairman of Mayors Against Illegal Guns, calls the move "a turning point for the movement" to control firearms, with

In the beginning of change the patriot is a scarce man, brave, hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, however, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. -- Mark Twain

Watts' group filling "the intensity gap" when it comes to grassroots activism.

Created in 2006, Bloomberg's group claims 1.5 million supporters and about 1,000 mayors now backing its agenda. It pushes for better access to crime data tied to guns and works with lawmakers to fix what it calls weak gun laws that make it easy for "criminals and other dangerous people" to get guns.

The group lobbied last spring for the U.S. Senate to pass the Manchin-Toomey amendment. Proposed by Sens. Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.) and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.), it would have required background checks on all commercial gun sales. The measure fell six votes short of getting enough support for a straight up-or-down vote.

Los Angeles civil rights attorney Chuck Michel, whose clients include the National Rifle Association, says the merger is reminiscent of a similar one between the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and the Million Mom March in 2002. But in this case, he says, Bloomberg brings considerable private funding to the effort.

--USA Today December 18, 2013

Sheriffs Refuse to Enforce Laws on Gun Control

GREELEY, Colo. — When Sheriff John Cooke of Weld County explains why he is not enforcing the state's new gun laws, he holds up two 30-round magazines. One, he says, he had before July 1, when the law banning the possession, sale or transfer of the large-capacity magazines went into effect. The other, he "maybe" obtained afterward.

He shuffles the magazines, which look identical, and then challenges the audience to tell the difference.

"How is a deputy or an officer supposed to know which is which?" he asks.

All but seven of the 62 elected sheriffs in Colorado signed on in May to a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the statutes.

The resistance of sheriffs in Colorado is playing out in other states, raising questions about whether tougher rules passed since Newtown will have a muted effect in parts of the American heartland, where gun ownership is common and grass-roots opposition to tighter restrictions is high.

In New York State, where Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo signed one of the toughest gun law packages, two sheriffs have said publicly they would

not enforce the laws — inaction that Mr. Cuomo said would set "a dangerous and frightening precedent." The sheriffs' refusal is unlikely to have much effect: According to the state's Division of Criminal Justice Services, since 2010 sheriffs have filed less than 2 percent of the two most common felony gun charges. The vast majority of charges are filed by the state or local police.

In Liberty County, Fla., a jury acquitted a sheriff who had been suspended and charged with misconduct after he released a man arrested by a deputy on charges of carrying a concealed firearm. The sheriff, who was immediately reinstated by the governor, said he was protecting the man's Second Amendment rights.

And in California, a delegation of sheriffs met with Gov. Jerry Brown this fall to try to persuade him to veto gun bills, including measures banning semiautomatic rifles with detachable magazines and lead ammunition for hunting (Mr. Brown signed the ammunition bill but vetoed the bill outlawing the rifles).

"Our way of life means nothing to these politicians, and our interests are not being promoted in the legislative halls of Sacramento or Washington, D.C.," said Jon E. Lopey, the sheriff of Siskiyou County, Calif.

This year, the new gun laws in Colorado have become political flash points. Two state senators who supported the legislation were recalled; a third resigned last month rather than face a recall. Efforts to repeal the statutes are already in the works.

Countering the elected sheriffs are some police chiefs, especially in urban areas, and state officials who say that the laws are not only enforceable but that they are already having an effect.

A Federal District Court judge last month ruled against a claim in the sheriffs' lawsuit that one part of the magazine law was unconstitutionally vague. The judge also ruled that while the sheriffs could sue as individuals, they had no standing to sue in their official capacity.

Sheriffs who refuse to enforce gun laws are in the minority. In Colorado, though, sheriffs like Joe Pelle of Boulder County, who support the laws and have more liberal constituencies, are outnumbered.

"A lot of sheriffs are claiming the Constitution, saying that they're not going to enforce this because they personally believe it violates the Second Amendment,"

Sheriff Pelle said. "But that stance in and of itself violates the Constitution."

At their extreme, the views of sheriffs who refuse to enforce gun laws echo the stand of Richard Mack, a former Arizona sheriff and the author of "The County Sheriff: America's Last Hope." Mr. Mack has argued that county sheriffs are the ultimate arbiters of what is constitutional and what is not. The Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, founded by Mr. Mack, is an organization of sheriffs and other officers who support his views.

"The Supreme Court does not run my office," Mr. Mack said in an interview. "Just because they allow something doesn't mean that a good constitutional sheriff is going to do it." He said that 250 sheriffs from around the country attended the association's recent convention.

Matthew J. Parlow, a law professor at Marquette University, said that some states, including New York, had laws that allowed the governor to investigate and remove public officials who engaged in egregious misconduct — laws that in theory might allow the removal of sheriffs who failed to enforce state statutes.

-- New York Times, Dec. 15, 2013

Chief told to disband entire police department

Chief Shane Harger of the Jemez Springs, NM Police Department was placed on administrative leave and ordered to disband his police department today after he returned from the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association Convention, where he as well as 38 other peace officers shared the commitment to uphold and defend the U.S. Constitution from enemies both foreign and domestic, and signed the Resolution of the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association (see below).

The following morning, Harger was told by Sheriff Douglas C. Wood of Sandoval County, NM, to dismantle the Jemez Springs Police Department.

Despite having received a meritorious commendation from the Mayor of Jemez Springs on January 22, 2014, it seems that no one in the village government is willing to come to the assistance of Harger. It appears that Harger's stance to defend and uphold the Constitution has put him and his entire department of ten part-time and volunteers out of business.

Harger has received no reprimands, no correspondence of

wrong doing, and nothing indicating that any of his actions were not in accordance with the law.

Jemez Springs, NM is a tourist destination. With a population of 252, the police department enjoys ten part-time officers and volunteers with many working about 8 hours per month.

**Resolution
Of the Constitutional
Sheriffs and Peace Officers
Association
January 24, 2014**

The people of these united States are, and have a right to be, free and independent, and these rights are derived from the "Law of Nature and nature's God." As such, they must be free from infringements on the right to keep and bear arms, unreasonable searches and seizures, capricious detainments and every other natural right whether enumerated or not, pursuant to the 9th amendment.

We further reaffirm that "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people." (10th amendment)

Furthermore, we maintain that no agency established by the U S Congress can develop its own policies or regulations which supersede the Bill of Rights or the Constitution, nor does the executive branch have the power to make law, overturn law or set aside law.

Therefore, in order to protect the American people, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,

The following abuses will not be allowed or tolerated:

- 1) Registration of personal firearms under any circumstances.
- 2) Confiscation of firearms without probable cause, due process, and constitutionally compliant warrants issued by a local or state jurisdiction.
- 3) Audits or searches of a citizen's personal affairs or finances without probable cause, due process, and constitutionally compliant warrants issued by a local or state jurisdiction.
- 4) Inspections of person or property without probable cause and constitutionally compliant warrants as required by the 4th Amendment and issued by a local or state jurisdiction.
- 5) The detainment or search of citizens without probable cause and proper due process compliance, or the informed consent of the citizen.
- 6) Arrests with continued incarcerations without charges and complete due process, including, but not limited to

public and speedy jury trials, in a court of state or local jurisdiction.

7) Domestic utilization of our nation's military or federal agencies operating under power granted under the laws of war against American citizens.

8) Arrest of citizens or seizure of persons or property without first notifying and obtaining the express consent of the local sheriff.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned Sheriffs, Peace Officers, and other Public Servants, do hereby denounce any acts or agencies which promote the aforementioned practices. All actions by the Federal Government and its agents will conform strictly and implicitly with the principles expressed within the United States Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights.

There is no greater obligation or responsibility of any government officer than to protect the rights of the people. Thus, any conduct contrary to the United States Constitution, Declaration of Independence, or the Bill of Rights will be dealt with as criminal activity.

Please print this document and present it to your sheriff for signature and then mail the original:

CSPOA – Constitutional
Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association
PO Box 567 Higley | AZ| 85236
email: azdmack@gmail.com
Phone: 480-840-9091
http://www.cspoa.org
-- www.usaprepares.com Jan. 28, 2014

The Nordic model

Copenhagen (AFP) - The Nordic model, known for high taxes and its cradle-to-grave welfare system, is getting a radical makeover as nations find themselves cash-strapped.

During the post-war period, the Scandinavian economies became famous for a "softer" version of capitalism that placed more importance on social equality than other western nations, such as Britain and the United States, did.

In Sweden, visitors are sometimes surprised to learn about year-long waiting times for cancer patients, rioting in low-income suburbs and train derailments amid lagging infrastructure investment.

Among Danes there is also a sense that the welfare state was ballooning out of control.

In 2011, a TV report aiming to show what life was like for the poor in Denmark visited the home of a single mother on benefits, whose disposable

income turned out to be 15,728 kroner (\$2,860) per month.

The next Nordic country to reform its welfare state is likely to be Finland, battered by a downturn in the two pillars of its economy: the forest industry and information technology.

Only Norway looks unlikely to reform entitlements anytime soon, bolstered by its oil wealth. The country is home to the world's largest sovereign wealth fund. Worth some 5,116 billion kroner (\$830 billion), each of the country's 5,096,000 inhabitants is -- at least on paper -- a millionaire.

-- Yahoo 24 January 2014

A peek into leftwing gun culture

Marlene Hoeber is feisty, tattooed, transgender, a self-described feminist, a queer activist -- and a crack shot with her favorite "toys," guns of just about every kind.

One thing she's not -- and proud of it -- is a member of the National Rifle Association.

Instead, Hoeber -- who says she's politically "somewhere around Emma Goldman," the turn-of-the-20th century anarchist -- and other left-leaning gun lovers have their own organization: the Liberal Gun Club. The group boasts more than 1,000 members nationally, including a recently formed Northern California chapter with about a dozen members.

The Liberal Gun Club backs a wide-open interpretation of the Second Amendment that lets law-abiding citizens possess just about any type of gun. But that's where its similarity to the NRA ends.

The NRA is "a valuable organization" that has helped educate people about the safe use of guns, Hoeber said. But in recent years, its leaders "have attached themselves to reactionary politics," she said.

"I can't put money into a group that gives campaign contributions to people who (say) how terribly wrong it is to walk down the street holding my girlfriend's hand," Hoeber said.

She insists there are many politically liberal folks in California who are eager to shoot, learn marksmanship, buy and collect guns -- or even own guns for self-protection -- except "they think gun people are people they want nothing to do with."

The group, through its website, www.theliberalgunclub.org, has ramped up membership efforts and also plans on forming a nonprofit

advocacy group to speak out on gun legislation.

More regulations on lawful gun owners "are overprescribed political placebos that fail to cure ... the root causes of violence," the gun club said in a position statement. Instead of "window-dressing 'solutions' like so-called 'assault weapons' bans and magazine capacity restrictions," the group argued, government should back "mitigation for violence prevention: stronger mental health care, addressing poverty, homelessness and unemployment."

The group also views monetary disincentives to gun ownership, such as ammunition taxes, as "class barriers" blocking the poor from exercising their constitutional rights.

For Hoeber, gun ownership is a political act.

"I have really strong feelings about my distaste for the state having the monopoly on force -- and about my distrust of the police," she said.

On a recent Saturday, club members showed up at the Chabot Gun Club in Castro Valley with an array of weapons that might horrify most of their left-leaning friends.

Larry, a retired Episcopal priest who declined to give his last name -- he's worried about what friends and co-workers may think -- says he found the club "the same way everyone else here did: I Googled 'liberal' and 'guns.'"

The Liberal Gun Club is "the only place that would have me," he said with a laugh, while loading his weapon. "A lot of us here have been kicked out of other gun forums because of our liberal views." -- San Francisco Chronicle, Jan. 2, 2014

Explosive allegations about 'Fast and Furious' and Brian Terry's death

By Jason Howerton

John Dodson, the federal agent who blew the lid off the Justice Department's "Fast and Furious" gun-walking scandal, claims the FBI had

ties to the men who killed U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry in 2010 near Nogales, Ariz. In fact, Dodson says the Mexican bandits who gunned down Terry were working for FBI operatives and had been sent to the border to do a "drug rip-off" using intelligence gathered by the DEA.

Dodson, a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, said he doesn't think the FBI was part of the rip-off crew, but the agency was "directing the rip crew." The explosive claims were made in an interview with The Arizona Republic this week.

The allegations are also found in Dodson's recently released book, "The Unarmed Truth," which chronicles his role as a whistleblower during Operation Fast and Furious. The Obama administration unsuccessfully tried to block publication of his book.

After the Terry slaying and an attempted cover-up within the Justice Department, Dodson provided evidence and testimony to Congress. His revelations, later verified by an Office of the Inspector General's report, resulted in a congressional contempt citation against Attorney General Eric Holder and the replacement of top ATF and Justice Department officials.

In his book, Dodson asserts that the DEA may have orchestrated, a large drug shipment through Peck Canyon [the night Terry was killed.] He alleges that DEA agents shared that intelligence with FBI counterparts, who advised criminal informants from another cartel that the load would be "theirs for the taking."

Dodson laid out a strategy in which federal law enforcement agencies, like the FBI, allow criminal activity in order to increase the clout of FBI informants embedded within cartel organizations.

The claims sound eerily familiar to allegations brought forward by high-ranking Sinaloa Cartel operative Jesus Vicente Zambada-Niebla, who is currently facing trial in Chicago on federal drug charges.

The federal government uses a "divide and conquer" strategy to dismantle other cartels in Mexico,

entering into agreements with ruthless drug cartels.

"(They) were given carte blanche to continue to smuggle tons of illicit drugs into Chicago and the rest of the United States and were also protected by the United States government from arrest and prosecution in return for providing information against rival cartels which helped Mexican and United States authorities capture or kill thousands of rival cartel members," the defense motion in the case reads.

-- www.theblaze.com Dec. 27, 2013

Myth & Fact

Myth: 13 children are killed each day by guns.

Fact: This "statistic" includes "children" up to age 19 or 24, depending on the source. The proper definition of 'child' is a person between birth and puberty (typically 13-14 years old).

Fact: 301 children (age 14 and under) died from gunfire in 2010. This includes homicides, accidents, and 81 suicides.

Fact: According to the CDC, over half of all homicides of victims aged 15-19 are gang-related. The same study found that gang-related homicides are more likely to involve firearms than those that are not (95% versus 69%).

Fact: 27% of child firearm deaths are suicides.

Fact: Four children die every day in automobiles.

Fact: Four children die each day in the U.S. from parental neglect and abuse.

For contrast: 1,917 children die each day from malaria around the world and 15 men, women, and children per day are murdered by a convicted felon in government parole/probation programs in the U.S.

-- <http://www.gunfacts.info>

* * *

If it be the pleasure of heaven that my country shall require the poor offering of my life, the victim shall be ready, at the appointed hour of sacrifice, come when that hour may. But while I do live, let me have a country, and that a free country! -- John Adams, 2nd President of the United States (1797-1801)

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